Claim 3, line 1, change "either claim 1 or claim 2" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

lines 6-7, delete "and preferably from 1 to 4 carbon atoms,";

lines 8-9, delete "preferably from 1 to 4 carbon atoms,".

Claim 4, line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 3" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

line 5, delete "preferably".

Claim 5, line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 4" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

line 3, after "guetol," insert --and--.

Claim 6, line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 5" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--.

Claim 7, line 1, change "characterised in that" to --wherein--.

Claim 8, line 1, change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

line 3, delete "preferably";

line 4, delete ", generally 1 to 3 unsaturations";

lines 15-16, delete "preferably a fluorine, chlorine or bromine

atom,".

Claim 9,   line 1, change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

lines 2-3, delete "an aromatic hydrocarbon residue, and, in

particular,";

line 7, delete "preferably from 0 to 3,".

Claim 10,   line 1, change "characterised in that" to --wherein--.

Claim 11,   line 1, change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

lines 3-4, delete ", generally having 3 to 7 carbon atoms, preferably 6

carbon atoms, in the ring".

Claim 12,   line 1, change "one of claims 6 to 11" to --claim 6-- and change

"characterised in that" to --wherein--.

13.   (Amended) A process according to claim 6, [characterised in that] <u>wherein</u>

the catalyst is a carrier compound with at least two carboxylic functions corresponding to

formula (II) selected from <u>the group consisting of</u>:

[- dicarboxylic aliphatic acids, such as:]

. oxalic acid

. malonic acid

. succinic acid

. glutaric acid

. adipic acid

. 2,4-dimethyl adipic acid

. pimelic acid

. suberic acid

. azelaic acid

. sebacic acid

. dodecane dioic acid

. fumaric acid

. maleic acid

[- cycloalkanedicarboxylic acids, such as]

. cyclohexane 1,4-dicarboxylic acid,

[- aromatic dicarboxylic acids, such as:]

. phthalic acid

. isophthalic acid

. terephthalic acid

. phenylenediacetic acid

. naphthalene 1,5-dicarboxylic acid

. naphthalene 1,6-dicarboxylic acid

. 4,4'-diphenylcarboxylic acid

. 3,3'-diphenylcarboxylic acid

. bis(4-hydroxycarbonyl) phenyl oxide

. bis(3-hydroxycarbonyl) phenyl oxide

. 4,4'-dihydroxycarbonyl diphenylsulphone

. 3,3'-dihydroxycarbonyl diphenylsulphone

[-]   ⊥ pyrimidine or imidazole dicarboxylic acids.

[-   aminopolycarboxylic acids:]

. ethylenediaminotetracetic acid (E.D.T.A.)

. diethylenetriaminopentacetic acid (D.T.P.A.)

. nitrilotriacetic acid (N.T.A.) and

. N-(2-hydroxyethyl)ethylene diaminotriacetic acid (H.E.D.T.A.).

Claim 14,   line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 13" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

    line 2, delete ", in particular from 0.1 to 3% acetic acid".

Claim 15,   line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 14" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

    lines 2-3, delete ", preferably in the region of 50% by weight".

Claim 16,   line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 15" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

line 3, delete "and is preferably selected between 2.0 and 3.0".

Claim 17,   line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 16" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--.

Claim 18,   line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 17" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

line 2, delete "preferably comprised";

line 3, delete ", and more particularly in the region of 1 mole/litre".

Claim 19,   line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 18" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

line 3, delete ", and preferably between 0.01 and 0.02".

Claim 20,   line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 19" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

lines 3-4, delete ", preferably between 1 and 2%".

Claim 21,   line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 20" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--.

Claim 22,   line 1, change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

line 2, delete "preferably between 1.2 and 2.6%,".

Claim 23, line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 22" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--.

Claim 24, line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 23" to --claim 27-- and change "characterised in that" to --wherein--;

line 2, delete ", preferably between 30°C and 40°C".

25. (Amended) [Use of the optionally substituted p-hydroxymandelic compounds obtained according to one of claims 1 to 24 as intermediates] <u>An intermediate for the production of hydroxyarylacetic acids, hydroxyarylglyoxylic acids, or hydroxyaromatic aldehydes <u>comprising using the optionally substituted p-hydroxymandelic compounds obtained according to the process of claim 27</u>.

26. (Amended) [Use of p-hydroxymandelic acid and 3-methoxy p-hydroxymandelic, 3-ethoxy p-hydroxymandelic acids or 3-isopropoxy p-hydroxymandelic acids obtained in accordance with the preparation process described in one of claims 1 to 24] <u>A process</u> for the production of 4-hydroxy benzaldehyde and vanillin and analogues by oxidation of said acids <u>using p-hydroxymandelic acid and 3-methoxy p-hydroxymandelic acid, 3-ethoxy p-hydroxymandelic acid, or 3-isopropoxy p-hydroxymandelic acid obtained in accordance with claim 27</u>.